

Missile shoots down USAID plane near Sahara; 5 killed

RABAT (Agencies) — A ground-to-air missile shot down plane carrying U.S. foreign aid workers near the disputed Western Sahara Thursday, killing at least five Americans, a U.S. spokesman and Moroccan radio said.

A second aircraft was also hit but managed to land at an airstrip in Morocco.

Both DC-7 aircraft were taking part in an international anti-locust campaign and were en route from Dakar, Senegal, to Agadir, on Morocco's Atlantic coast.

"One of the aircraft exploded in the air after it was hit, while the second which was hit a few seconds later was able to continue in flight at low altitude and landed at Sidi Ifni airfield in Morocco," the radio said in its midnight bulletin Thursday. It gave no casualty figures.

It was not known who fired the missiles. The plane was near the Western Sahara where guerrillas have been battling the Moroccan government for control of the former Spanish colony sandwiched between Mauritania and Morocco.

Mauritania lies east of the Western Sahara, a former Spanish colony. Morocco annexed

part of the Western Sahara in 1976 and the remaining territory three years later, when Mauritania withdrew from it.

For 13 years, the desolate border region has been the scene of a guerrilla war waged by the Polisario Front to establish an independent Western Sahara.

A caller identifying himself as Madjid Abdullah, Polisario's North American representative in Washington, said the front "will do everything possible to shed full light on this tragic and unfortunate incident."

"We are not sure really who shot it down," he said in a phone call to the AP in New York. "The Polisario Front has no interest in creating problems with the United States."

He said Morocco must assume responsibility for the attack because it directed civilian planes over an area with a "huge concentration" of Polisario troops.

The area where the plane was

shot down is 1,045 kilometres southwest of Rabat.

The DC-7s were used for spraying locust swarms in Senegal, which borders Mauritania to the south, aid spokesman Bart Kull said in Washington. Locust infestations have ravaged much of Northern Africa this year.

Four civilian aircraft have been shot down over the Sahara earlier in the war between the Algerian-backed guerrillas and Moroccan troops.

A U.S. embassy spokesman in Rabat said the two four-engined aircraft had been chartered by the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) to combat the worst plague of locusts to hit northwest Africa this century.

They were flying north from their bases in Senegal to Agadir at about 3,000 metres along an internationally recognised air corridor.

He said a team of USAID workers had gone to Agadir to investigate the deaths.

The last time a plane was shot down in Western Sahara was in October 1986 when a French Cessna taking part in the Paris-Dakar air rally was hit near Dakhla and crash-landed. Both crew members escaped unharmed.

Al Haq's figures include dozens of cases of Palestinians said to have died from teargas inhalation.

(UNRA) for Palestine refugees, the Palestinian human rights group Al Haq, the Bank of Israel and hospitals in the occupied territories.

Where major discrepancies exist, several figures have been provided.

The discrepancy in the death toll is partly because Reuter figures include Palestinians killed by fellow Arabs on suspicion of collaborating with Israel. UNRWA and the defence ministry exclude these deaths.

Al Haq's figures include dozens of cases of Palestinians said to have died from teargas inhalation.

The human cost:

Palestinians killed — 330 (Reuters); 405 (Al Haq); 313 (UNRWA); 302 (defence ministry).

Palestinians wounded at least 20,000 (UNRWA). Al Haq — includes those treated in hospitals for beatings, tear-gas; 3,640 (defence ministry) — almost entirely gunshot wounds;

Israelis killed — 11 (defence ministry);

Israeli civilians wounded — 402 (defence ministry);

Israeli soldiers wounded — 730 (defence ministry);

Palestinians arrested — 20,000

JORDAN TIMES, SATURDAY DECEMBER 11, 1987

male Israeli under 55 — 62 days (1987 — 45 days);

The economic cost:

Additional cost to Israeli defence budget — \$250 million (defence ministry);

Estimated cost of uprising in loss of Israeli gross domestic product (GDP) — \$700 million (Bank of Israel);

Decline in tourism — 14 per cent (tourism ministry);

Record non-stop curfew — 42 days (Jelazoun refugee camp);

Decline in GDP of occupied territories due to uprising — more than 25 per cent (defence ministry).

MIDDLE EAST NEWS IN BRIEF

ICRC quits South Lebanon

BEIRUT (AP) — The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) has pulled its Swiss staff out of the southern port of Tyre, completing a suspension of operations in South Lebanon, spokeswoman Francoise Derron said Thursday. The move appeared designed to try to pressure the kidnappers of Red Cross delegate Peter Winkler to free him. He was grabbed in the southern provincial capital of Sidon Nov. 17. The ICRC had suspended its Sidon operations and withdrawn its six Swiss delegates from there shortly after Winkler's abduction. Derron said the three ICRC delegates posted in Tyre were withdrawn to Beirut Wednesday.

U.S. navy easing security in Gulf

NEW YORK (R) — The U.S. navy is easing security measures in the Gulf, but is not ready to reduce the size of its task force in the region, the New York Times reported Friday. The newspaper quoted unidentified administration officials as saying that under new, relaxed guidelines, the navy would no longer require warships to keep oil tankers in sight as they transit the volatile waterway. The navy will also allow its own ships to stay further from their stations for shore leave and resupply, the newspaper said. "We'll see how this works," one official was quoted as saying. "If there are any problems we'll be able to go back to closer protection quickly."

Paper publishes Reagan letter on Nir

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Israeli newspaper Friday published a 1986 letter from U.S. President Ronald Reagan praising the activities of Amiram Nir, a former Israeli official implicated in the Iran-contra affair. Nir, who was an adviser to two Israeli prime ministers, died in a mysterious plane crash in Mexico Nov. 30. The letter, carried on the front page of the mass-circulation Hebrew daily Yediot Achronot, said: "I want you to know of my personal gratitude and that of the people of the United States for the extraordinary efforts being undertaken on our mutual behalf by Mr. Amiram Nir. It continued: "As you are aware, he is participating in an endeavour of great importance to both our nations and peoples." The letter gave no details, but said Nir "serves both of our countries in a common cause." The letter was dated Oct. 3, 1986, and sent to then-Prime Minister Shimon Peres.

American University honours Mahfouz

CAIRO (AP) — The American University in Cairo announced Thursday a project to bring major Arabic-language literary works to the English-reading public in honour of Nobel literature laureate Naguib Mahfouz. The university, Mahfouz's English-language publisher and worldwide agent, also announced arrangements with publishers in 22 countries on four continents to publish the Egyptian's works in 13 languages. Egypt's most-read writer and one of the most popular in the Arab World, Mahfouz was selected in October to receive the 1988 Nobel Prize for Literature.

PoWs: Iran offered money, girls to stay

MOSUL (AP) — Repatriated Iraqi prisoners of war (PoWs) say Iranian officials offered them money and girls and intimidated them in an effort to desuade them from returning to Iraq. Speaking at a news conference late Wednesday, some 30 prisoners, repatriated for health reasons after the Aug. 20 ceasefire in the Gulf war, said many Iraqi prisoners decided to stay in Iran after they were subject to different types of psychological pressures. Reporters were driven from Baghdad to Mosul, in northern Iraq, in buses to attend the conference at the Saddam General Hospital, where they are being treated. "They would tell us, 'we will arrange for you to marry a beautiful Iranian girl, get you a well-paid job, a house and a car, of you ask for political asylum and stay in Iran,'" Osama Youssef Abdullah, a 29-year-old soldier, captured in 1981, a year after the war broke out.

Reagan repeats request for Iranian help

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Ronald Reagan Thursday repeated his plea for Iranian help in winning the release of U.S. citizens held hostage in Lebanon, but administration spokesmen quickly made clear that he was not altering the U.S. policy against bargaining with "terrorists." Reagan, in his last White House news conference, also reiterated that he did not believe his administration was bargaining with "terrorists" when it entered into the Iran-contra affair. "We're looking at every channel that we can find to try and get them, and I imagine that the ultimate is going to be somehow a negotiation with Iran, because we are hopeful that there can be avenues that would open" for the release of the hostages, he said.

King: Intifada is fight for rights

(Continued from page II)

important part of the world and a vital spot which has rich oil resources and an important geographical location, "is one of the most dangerous problems that not only threaten this region, but also world peace."

"It is nonsense that this problem remains without a solution, (which should come through) an international peace conference in which the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, takes part on an equal footing," he said.

On Jordan's decision to sever administrative and legal relations with the occupied West Bank, the King said "We did no more than complying with the wish of the Palestinian people, who opted one day to join us in a united country but recently opted to go in the direction of forming their own independent Palestinian state on their national soil and to focus on their personality and identity."

The King added that Jordan had blessed the Palestinian wishes and had responded in the past as it had responded recently.

However, the King noted, "we will not abandon them and will never relinquish our duties towards them until they restore their full rights on their national soil," he said.

On the proposed confederation between Jordan and the Palestinian state, King Hussein said Jordan wanted this confederation as a means for enabling the PLO to take its natural place in the international peace conference.

"However, due to the disengagement of administrative and legal relations on the one hand and due to the recent resolutions on the other the picture has changed and we are now studying the subject with all its details... how the future relations will be," he said.

The King noted that Jordanian-Palestinian relations were stronger than any time in the past. "The relations between the two Arab peoples of Jordan and Palestine have always been unique and very special," he said.

"We hope to see in the near future the establishment of the independent Palestinian state on the Palestinian national soil. If the Palestinian brothers opt for this kind of confederation, then it would be one of the objectives which we might achieve at a later stage. However the people will be free to choose whatever they want," the King said.

Tangible moves for peace

In an interview with two Kuwaiti newspapers published Friday, the King predicted tangible results concerning the Middle East problem and a vital development in the Palestinian issue next spring.

World views towards Israel on the Palestinian question have changed and there is pressure on Israel to exchange occupied territories for peace, the King said in the interview with Al Siyassah and the English-language Arab Times.

He expressed the belief that the next U.S. administration would want to see Israel showing more flexibility on the Palestinian issue.

Referring to the Palestinian uprising, the King said that Israel's security calculations were currently in a difficult situation and would become even more difficult with time and that pressure on Israel would increase.

Jordanian economy

King Hussein said that the Jordanian dinar was now at its real market value following the recent decline which is bound to lead to an increase in exports and assure the foreign investors that there will not be any further decreases in its value.

The high value of the dinar caused the Kingdom problems with exports but the decline is beneficial for the national economy, he said. Among reasons behind the decline in the value of the dinar, the King explained, was a halt of Arab financial aid to Jordan.

The King said U.S. president-elect George Bush would accept that the peace process in the Middle East required Israel to show more flexibility. He predicted that the national economy would regain its strength and that pressure from foreign debts would be reduced.

Confidence in government

King Hussein voiced confidence in the government of Prime Minister Zaid Rifai who, he said, had discharged his duties in accordance with royal directives.

The present stage requires stability, allowing the prime minister sufficient time to carry out his government's programmes, the King said.

Jordan's political life, the King added, is now in need of such stability under the present circumstances and the prime minister, who has proved his skill and tactfulness on the domestic and external fronts, will continue his duty to serve his country.

Call for summit

King Hussein called for an

Palestinian women report sexual assault by Israeli police

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (R)

The Israeli civil rights association filed a complaint Thursday saying that paramilitary border police severely beat six Arab women and sexually assaulted three of them in the occupied Gaza Strip.

Arab women say conservative Muslim society discourages them from lodging complaints when incidents occur. Few Palestinians believe such complaints receive a serious Israeli response.

The affidavits by members of the Abu Dakka family said that Oct. 19, as they walked to work, they were attacked and chased into a house by border policemen who teamed up to hold them, beat them and molest three of them.

The women, including one who was nine months pregnant, filed affidavits together with medical reports showing a border police raid in Khan Younis refugee camp had left one with a broken arm, another with broken teeth and a third with a broken ear drum.

A senior Israeli police officer said the border police were investigating the men involved in the incident.

Attacks on women and particularly sexual assaults have

been reported only rarely during the Palestinian uprising in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Arab women say

conservative Muslim society

discourages them from lodging complaints when incidents occur. Few Palestinians believe such complaints receive a serious Israeli response.

The affidavits by members of the Abu Dakka family said that Oct. 19, as they walked to work, they were attacked and chased into a house by border policemen who teamed up to hold them, beat them and molest three of them.

Nabila Halli Abu Dakka,

nine months pregnant, said she was beaten by several men with clubs and rifle butts.

Tamir Peleg, a lawyer with the civil rights association, told Reuters: "Here is a special case — women being beaten and also the sexual aspect — which really calls for action to stop it before it becomes a habit."

"Accepted the existence of Israel as a state in the region" and "declared its rejection of terrorism in all its forms," Arafat said.

"We accept two states: the Palestine state and the Jewish state of Israel," Arafat said.

Shultz said Wednesday that Arafat still had not met explicit terms set by the United States as a precondition for entering a dialogue with the PLO.

Murphy commented at a symposium sponsored by the Centre for Strategic and International Studies, hours after his return from a two-week trip to South Asia.

He said Shultz's decision to deny Arafat an entry visa "was not, nor could it be, directed in any way against Palestinians and their centrality in the peace process."

"No one contests the principle that legitimate Palestinian rights must be addressed and that Palestinians must participate at every stage of the negotiating process," Murphy said. "Without their participation — and their acceptance of the final results — there can be no peace in the region."

USEFUL TELEPHONE NUMBERS

NIGHT DUTY

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

Min/max temp.

7:19

Amman

637660

Telephone Information

787111

Al Mousa

645945

Al Mousa

645845

Al Mousa

646127/37

The Islamic

666127/37

EMERGENCIES

Civil Defence Directorate

661111

Civil Defence Immediate

630341

Rescue

NATIONAL NEWS IN BRIEF

ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SEMINAR: Under the patronage of His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, a five-day regional conference on health and development organised by the World Health Organisation's Centre for Environmental Health Activities (CEHA) in cooperation with the Ministry of Health, will be held in Amman Saturday. Taking part in the conference will be 39 experts from 20 countries from the Eastern Mediterranean region. (Petra)

HAMZEH IN ROME: Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh Thursday represented Jordan at the celebration held by the Italian Health Ministry in Rome to mark the centennial anniversary of the enactment of the public health act, and spoke about Jordan's experience in the field of primary health care. (Petra)

EXEMPTION OF VEHICLES FROM DUTIES: Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khalid Al Haj Hassan has sent a memo to his Iraqi counterpart Mohammad Hamzeh Al Zubaidi requesting him to arrange for exempting Jordanian transport vehicles from the duties and fines similar to the step taken by the Jordanian authorities which have exempted Iraqi vehicles from such customs, in order to facilitate the smooth flow of transport between the two countries. The Iraqi authorities collect approximately JD 48 from Jordanian vehicles for each trip, in addition to JD 11-11 upon entry and exit from Iraqi borders for organising the manifest. (Petra)

ARAB MARITIME BRIDGE TALKS: Minister of Transport and Telecommunications Khalid Haj Hassan will head the Jordanian side to the meetings of the Arab Maritime Bridge, due to convene in the Egyptian capital of Cairo, Sunday. The company was set up in 1988 with a capital of \$6 million shared by Jordan, Egypt and Iraq.

PILGRIMAGE TO MECCA: Minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs Sheikh Abdul Aziz Al Khayyat has set up a committee to take charge of matters related to pilgrimage to Mecca. The committee, which is chaired by Dr. Ahmad Hilayel, groups five members from the ministry who will arrange for the transportation and the accommodation of the Muslim pilgrims. (Petra)

UNDP PROJECTS: Representatives of U.N. Development Programme (UNDP) offices in Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq Thursday concluded a two-day meeting in Amman during which they reviewed projects to be implemented in the four countries with UNDP assistance. The representatives adopted a number of resolutions which they said will be referred to the UNDP headquarters for approval. (Petra)

NEW STAMPS: Post offices around the Kingdom will Saturday sell stamps commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The stamps will be of 80 and 160 fils denominations. (Petra)

EMBEZZLER JAILED: The military court has sentenced Fahd Al Ahmad Hussein Khazaleh to five years in prison for embezzling public funds. The military governor Thursday endorsed the sentence. (Petra)

NEW DESIGNS FOR STAMPS: The Post Offices and Postal Savings Corporation announced a new competition for designing stamps for the year 1989 and called on all artists to call the corporation to obtain copies of the specifications. The winner will be granted JD 100. (Petra)

ACO INCREASES AMOUNT OF REWARDS: The Doha-based Arab Cities Organisation (ACO) has increased its financial reward for the best architectural design to \$25,000 and has decided to raise to \$30,000, the value of the prize for the Arab architect's competition announced earlier this year. (Petra)

INCREASE IN CREDIT FACILITIES: Credit facilities offered by the commercial banks in Jordan to the various sectors increased from JD 1,513,033,000 to JD 1,619,773,000 during the first nine months of this year, thus representing an increase of JD 106,740,000 over last year's figures, according to the Central Bank's monthly statistical bulletin. (Petra)

NEW BUDGET FOR PORTS CORPORATION: The Jordanian Ports Corporation has endorsed a 1989 general budget and took decisions concerning facilities to be offered to Iraq at Aqaba for exporting its sulphur. According to a statement issued Thursday the corporation's 1989 budget will amount to JD 39 million of which JD 30 million will be expenses. (Petra)



Al Hussein visits Prime Ministry

His Majesty King Hussein Thursday visited the Prime Ministry and met with Prime Minister Zaid Rifa'i for some time. The monarch gave directives to the prime minister on a number of issues (Petra photo)

Joint group stresses importance of tourism in south Jordan, Sinai

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan and Egypt have concluded a round of talks in Amman designed to promote their bilateral cooperation in regional planning, and teams from both sides agreed on number of steps considered as vital for integration process between the two countries.

The two teams laid emphasis to tourism in southern Jordan and Sinai and said that water and transport projects in the two regions should be given priority in the integration process.

They agreed to exchange expertise and conduct joint work in hilly and rural regions of Sinai and Aqaba areas, to intensify search for underground water resources to help in implementing agricultural projects and coordinate their efforts in regional planning especially in the area of land

utilisation, according to statement that followed the final meeting.

The statement said that the two sides will conduct joint studies on sea water desalination to obtain potable water for the two regions, carry out joint efforts in the development of rural areas and agriculture in the desert regions, and create traditional and small industries.

The statement said the two sides decided to set up a joint committee to meet twice a year in order to follow steps taken in integrating the two regions and remove obstacles in joint projects.

The two teams will also help convene seminars and conferences to discuss issues of common interest especially in regional and national planning, and to ex-

change booklets, and other various publications containing studies in this field.

The joint committee will prepare plans for joint projects that will be discussed and approved by meetings of the joint Jordanian-Egyptian Higher Committee and will define schemes that should be given priority.

According to the statement, the two sides underlined the importance of land and its use for different purposes, and decided on measures to help specialists and engineers from both countries to embark on studies and plans in this respect.

The two sides also agreed on the need to launch joint training programmes for personnel from the two countries to carry out work on regional planning.

Pan-Arab meeting to work out strategy in science, technology

AMMAN (Petra) — Delegates from Arab states and Arab League organisations will Saturday open a five-day meeting here to discuss organisation and management of scientific and technological research work and to work out a pan-Arab strategy in science and technology.

The meeting, organised by the Amman-based regional office of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), will examine the prospect of coordinating the work of scientific research centres in the Arab World for the benefit of pan-Arab development.

The delegates will look into the prospect of introducing legislations covering the work of scientists, will study the proposed 'green belt' scheme for North African Arab countries, as well as

means of developing and organising administration of training, the use of equipment and the creation of new units related to science and technology and their usefulness in serving development projects in the Arab World.

The status of consultancy firms and engineering offices and their application of results and findings of scientific and technological centres in their projects will also be discussed by the delegates.

The delegates will look into the prospect of introducing legislations covering the work of scientists, will study the proposed 'green belt' scheme for North African Arab countries, as well as

four working papers dealing with experiments of Jordan, Egypt, Somalia and Saudi Arabia in the scientific and technological fields.

A total of 24 delegates representing Jordanian ministries, the Royal Scientific Society, Jordanian universities and the Higher Council for Science and Education will represent Jordan at the meeting which will be attended also by delegates from Qatar, Lebanon, Somalia, South and North Yemen, Egypt, Tunisia, Morocco, Syria, Mauritania, the United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Iraq, Saudi Arabia and Bahrain in addition to the Arab Organisation of Administrative Sciences.

Expedition surveys area around 'Ain Ghazal archaeological site

AMMAN (J.T.) — A joint expedition between the Institute of Archaeology and Anthropology at Yarmouk University and the Desert Research Institute of the University of Nevada System, with the cooperation of the Department of Antiquities of Jordan, has recently completed an archaeological survey of portions of the Greater Amman area.

The project, led by Dr. Zeidan Kafafli of Yarmouk University and Dr. Alan Simmons of the Desert Research Institute, had two specific research projects. The first was to complete a survey within a one kilometre radius of the important Neolithic (ca. 7,500-5,500 B.C.) site of 'Ain Ghazal, located near Marka, adjacent to the Amman-Zarqa highway. This site, which has been under investigation since 1981 by a combined expedition of researchers from Yarmouk University, the Desert Research Institute, University of Nevada System, and San Diego State University, is one of the most significant early villages known in the Near East.

Previous studies have concentrated on the site itself and archaeologists have little knowledge of the area surrounding it. Considering the rapid pace of development in Amman, it was decided that a survey of the immediate vicinity around 'Ain Ghazal was critical. Thus, the

first objective was to document all archaeological sites adjacent to 'Ain Ghazal before they disappear due to construction.

The second objective was to expand the survey area to the largely undeveloped region northeast of 'Ain Ghazal.

One goal here was to determine if the large community of 'Ain Ghazal was surrounded by smaller Neolithic support sites. Another goal was to document the complete range of human occupation in the region.

The survey, completed over a period of four weeks, covered an area of some 8.4 square kilometres and recorded a total of 81 archaeological sites, including 'Ain Ghazal.

A wide range of time periods was represented with the earliest materials probably dating to the latest Neolithic and are characterised by high number of burins, which are specialised tools.

Some of these sites also were associated with features that might represent animal runs or "kites," but this relationship is still unclear. None of these sites appear to represent substantial occupations; rather they undoubtedly reflect short-term camps.

Another category of sites that is difficult to interpret are rujum sites.

These are characterised by piles of stones. Sometimes the outline of a structure can be determined in these, but frequently they exhibit little patterning. In many instances, rujum sites contain no ceramics, but at those sites that do contain these artifacts, Iron Age II (ca. 900-500 B.C.) sherds appear dominant.

Until some of these obscure features are excavated, their function must remain unknown.

French quartet to play in Amman

AMMAN (J.T.) — The Messiaen Quartet, named after the celebrated French composer Olivier Messiaen, will perform Tuesday at the Bach laureate School theatre, the French Cultural Centre, according to a press release.

It said the quartet will perform a programme of French music by Ravel, Messiaen and Troncini. By taking the name of the composer

Olivier Messiaen, the quartet has shown its design to make people more familiar with contemporary music.

In bestowing his name on the quartet, Messiaen reportedly said: "Having heard this group play my quartet for the end of time, I was most impressed by their technique, their ensemble playing, and beautiful tone. I am happy for them to carry my name."

The quartet will perform a programme of French music by Ravel, Messiaen and Troncini. By taking the name of the composer

Ministry team reviews plan to rid country of homeless and beggars

AMMAN (Petra) — A general meeting was held at the Ministry of Social Development in Amman Thursday to discuss the question of the homeless and beggars in the Kingdom, and to examine a general plan by the ministry to find solutions for their problems.

Delegates from various government departments and institutions who attended the meeting, reviewed a survey conducted by the Ministry of Social Development to determine the volume of people who have no homes and those who beg their living off the streets in Jordanian towns and cities. They also looked into measures that should be adopted in dealing with the problem.

The director of Studies Department at the ministry said that information provided through the survey was bound to help planners to control and contain the problem.

According to a statement issued at the end of the meeting more information will have to be collected about the vagabonds and beggars, with the help of social and voluntary agencies, before measures can be taken.

It said that a team involved in the plan is studying laws and legislations on the state of the homeless people.

A report published in July 1988 said that a large number of beg-

gars and vagabonds had been removed from the streets and their cases were processed by the concerned authorities before solutions for their problems could be found.

The report indicated that many non-Jordanians found drifting without work permits were sent back to their home countries.

The report, published in Al Ra'i Arabic daily quoted a police spokesman as saying that a special force, working in groups had been entrusted with carrying out the task of cleansing Amman of vagabonds and beggars that used to infest the streets and alleys.

Public Security Director General Abdul Idris Al Majali announced in April that 583 beggars had been rounded up in Amman at the start of the campaign. He said that 98 of the apprehended beggars were found to be non-Jordanians and 273 of the rest were minors, mostly schoolchildren.



Princess Basma opens art exhibition

Her Royal Highness Princess Basma on Thursday opened an art exhibition by 18 artists from the Gulf Cooperation Council countries. The Princess toured the exhibition, inspecting the different works of plastic art which will remain on display

for a whole month. Attending the opening ceremony with the Princess at the Jordan Fine Arts Gallery was Princess Wijdan Ali and an audience of invited guests (Petra photo)

New private university to have a capital of JD 11.1 million

AMMAN (J.T.) — A constituent committee preparing for the creation of a private university in Jordan has decided that the capital of the new project should be JD 11.1 million and that its name will be the University of Applied Sciences.

The decision was taken at a meeting held under the chairmanship of Dr. Saleh Khasawneh.

A report in Al Dustour Arabic daily Friday said the committee discussed procedural matters, the registration of the new company, and decided on its next meeting which will be on Jan. 12, 1989.

Seminar calls for centre to analyse information on occupational injuries

AMMAN (Petra) — A three-day seminar on industrial safety was concluded in Amman Wednesday, with the participants recommending the establishment of a national centre to take charge of collecting and analysing information and data related to occupational injuries, and providing consultancy services in safety measures at industries.

The seminar, which was attended by delegates from Jordan and nine other Arab states, called on Arab countries to adopt comprehensive policies on industrial safety that are in harmony with economic and social development plans, appealed to concerned authorities to issue regulations and enact laws and legislations to impose safety pre-

cautions in industrial businesses and train personnel in safety matters.

They underlined the role of media in spreading awareness on occupational safety and its importance in social, economic and other fields, and emphasised the importance of specific laws and standards in all matter related to industry.

Etawi's oil paintings are unified by strong palette of bright colours

By Meg Abu Hamdan
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — At the Al Wasiti Art Gallery this week and until the end of the month is an exhibition of paintings by the Iraqi artist, Lateef Etawi. Now living in Rome where he continued his studies after graduating from the Academy of Fine Arts in Baghdad in 1979, Etawi produces works in oil the subject matter of which range from Baghdad street scenes, through still lives, to horses and abstracts, all of which are unified by strong palette of bright, often raw, colours.

ART REVIEW

Among the most interesting of Etawi's work are the abstracts which escape the rather commercial feel of the street scenes and the overworked symbolism of the borse. Full of rich, if at times acerbic, colours these abstracts resolve themselves into images of lush gardens where leaves twist and twirl themselves into Arabic letters and symbols. Piled up bonfire like these leaves lead the eye into a street where towering palms stand out against a neon sky, their shadows dancing in the wet pavement below. These paintings are a strange mixture of abstract which merges into realism, of tropical greenery that contrasts vividly with the garish urban surroundings, of man made day that invades the dark all of which captures the innate unease of the big city at night.

Etawi's studies of Middle Eastern still life objects — grapes, dates, bronze vases set against hand woven rugs — are well executed, the artist managing to give the works light, texture and depth. Equally well painted and more inspired are the works where galloping horses kick up a dust cloud of crescents and Arabic letters.

The exhibition runs until Dec. 30.



Galloping horses kick up a dust cloud of crescents and Arabic letters by the Iraqi artist Lateef Etawi at the Wasiti Gallery.

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Human rights — not culture bound

TOGETHER with the whole international community Jordan today marks the fortieth anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which the United Nations General Assembly had adopted and proclaimed by Resolution 217 A(III) on Dec. 10, 1948, as a common human rights standard for all peoples and nations.

In the eighth paragraph of the prologue to the Declaration, the General Assembly of the United Nations called on all states to strive by teaching and education to promote respect for the rights and freedoms outlined in the Declaration in order to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance. It is fitting to recall on this occasion that contrary to the widespread view that the Declaration was coined by Western culture and superimposed on other civilisations, the cardinal principles contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in fact drew heavily on the precepts of the three major monotheistic religions of the world and on the guiding lights of the three principal revolutions of the world, namely the French, American and Soviet revolutions.

The Arab and Islamic worlds must be proud of their civilisations' contributions to the articulation and formulation of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Suffice it to recall the pivotal role that the late Charles Malik of Lebanon had performed in the drafting of the Declaration together with other Arab and Islamic diplomats and statesmen assigned to the United Nations in that era.

It is also important to recall on this occasion that more relevant than legislations in the endeavour to promote and protect human rights worldwide is the need to create a culture favourable to the cause of human rights in any given country. As long as there are no deep rooted individual and national behaviours supportive of human rights, no amount of laws would be sufficient to affect genuine respect and observance of human rights. Nevertheless, the process of realising an environment — political, economic, social and cultural — favourable to the cause of human rights requires a systemic national effort to educate the people from all sectors of society, including those directly responsible for law and order, in the art of reconciling respect and observance of human rights with the collective human rights for positive stability and enlightened security.

It is self-evident, as borne out by repeated lessons of history, that lasting and durable peace and genuine stability in any given nation rest squarely on adherence to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights which began the various legally binding international covenants and instruments on human rights.

Loaded words on Jordan

The following article by Jordan's ambassador to the U.S. appeared in The Washington Post on Nov. 26. Hammami's article was in response to an article that appeared on Nov. 7 by the Post's Middle East correspondent Patrick Tyler. Tyler, quoting unnamed sources charges that Jordan's severance of legal and administrative ties with the West Bank had resulted in an economic crisis fuelled by uncertainties over the future of Jordanians of Palestinian origin in Jordan.

By Hussein A. Hammami

IN WEAVING the threads of Jordan's economic situation into the political warp of Jordanian-Palestinian relations, Patrick Tyler Nov. 7 attempts to create an exaggerated image out of a random collection of presumptions and rumour. Considering the seriousness of the allegations made, his article would have been more credible and accurate had the statements been based on supporting facts rather than anonymous sources.

The article's lead sentence, according to an unnamed source, sweepingly describes King Hussein as "isolated within a small circle of advisers" and charges government contracting with "rampant corruption." But nowhere in Tyler's lengthy piece does he follow up his sensational lead with the details a reader would expect. He drops his loaded words and goes on to other matters.

A correspondent with Tyler's experience in Middle East coverage should have more knowledge of King Hussein's character — of how closely and sensitively His Majesty keeps his hand on the pulse of public opinion, and how carefully his political decisions are made to reflect the will of Jordan's citizens and of Arab Nation in general. King Hussein's 36 years of leadership have proved his strength as one of the wisest and most adept figures in Middle East politics.

This is not the first time Jordan has had to face economic difficulties. It is a small country of limited resources and in good times as well as bad it has always had to seek outside support in building its economy. Out of little, it has achieved much. Furthermore, Jordan enjoys worldwide recognition for its clear and efficient government.

Jordan's economic problems should not be attributed to the impact of recent political developments. It is to be expected that Jordan's July 31 political decision to sever its legal and administrative links with the West Bank would have some economic repercussions, but this certainly does not mean, as Tyler's article implies, that Jordan will "sink or swim" depending on the politics of the Jordanian-Palestinian relationship.

The government's recent economic measures, such as restricting imports of luxury goods and limiting the outflow of hard currency, are specifically aimed at halting heavy consumer spending and gearing the economy toward increased domestic productivity. As Tyler's article notes, Arab and foreign aid to Jordan has been steadily decreasing for the past few years, because of the drop in oil prices. The consequent recession has had a cumulative impact not only on Jordan but on the region as a whole.

Regarding the implications of Jordan's West Bank decision on the status of Jordanians of Palestinian origin, these people will continue to retain all their rights as full-fledged Jordanian citizens, as guaranteed by the constitution. As for the Palestinians living in the occupied West Bank, special consideration has been given to their status. They will continue to carry Jordanian passports, valid for two years and renewable until the day they will be able to hold their own Palestinian passports.

As for the "political participation of the people," it has by no means been "destroyed." The recent dissolution of Jordan's parliament (in which West Bank Palestinians had been represented) was a necessary and logical consequence of the legal severance of ties between the two banks. Full political involvement by all Jordanian citizens will resume with parliamentary elections, to be held after the necessary amendment of electoral laws. Furthermore, no one can serve as a member of Jordan's legislative body if he is a member of another, such as the Palestine National Council.

The change in "management" of the press reported by Tyler was prompted by the need to separate newspaper ownership from editorial policy in the media. The new editorial managers are by no means "sycophants and cronies" of the government. They are among the country's leading journalists, widely respected and holding long-established credentials.

Unfortunately, Tyler's article paints the situation in Jordan with a sensational brush. While it is true that Jordan is passing through some difficulties, its national health, economically, politically and socially, remains sound. As in the past, it will overcome the challenge and continue to enjoy its hard-won stability and democratic way of life.

Universal declaration of human rights

Preamble

Whereas recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice and peace in the world;

Whereas disregard and contempt for human rights have resulted in barbarous acts which have outraged the conscience of mankind, and the advent of a world in which human beings shall enjoy freedom of speech and belief and freedom from fear and want has been proclaimed as the highest aspiration of the common people;

Whereas it is essential, if man is not to be compelled to have recourse, as a last resort, to rebellion against tyranny and oppression, that human rights should be protected by the rule of law;

Whereas it is essential to promote the development of friendly relations between nations;

Whereas the peoples of the United Nations have in the Charter reaffirmed their faith in fundamental human rights, in the dignity and worth of the human person and in the equal rights of men and women and have determined to promote social progress and better standards of life in larger freedom;

Whereas Member States have pledged themselves to achieve, in co-operation with the United Nations, the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

Whereas a common understanding of these rights and freedoms is of the greatest importance for the full realisation of this pledge.

Now, Therefore,
The General Assembly
proclaims
This Universal Declaration
of Human Rights

as a common standard of achievement for all peoples and nations, to the end that every individual and every organ of society, keeping this Declaration constantly in mind, shall strive by teaching and education to promote respect for these rights and freedoms and by progressive measures, national and international, to secure their universal and effective recognition and observance, both among the peoples of Member States themselves and among the peoples of territories under their jurisdiction.

Article 1

All human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights. They are endowed with reason and conscience and should act towards one another in a spirit of brotherhood.

Article 2

Everyone is entitled to all the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration, without distinction of any kind, such as race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status.

Furthermore, no distinction shall be made on the basis of the political, jurisdictional or international status of the country or territory to which a person belongs, whether it be independent, trust, non-self-governing or under any other limitation of sovereignty.

Article 3

Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person.

Article 4

No one shall be held in slavery or servitude; slavery and the slave trade shall be prohibited in all their forms.

Article 5

No one shall be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment.

Article 6

Everyone has the right to recognition everywhere as a person before the law.

Article 7

All are equal before the law and are entitled without any discrimination to equal protection of the law. All are entitled to equal protection against any discrimination in violation of this Declaration and against any incitement to such discrimination.

Article 8

Everyone has the right to an effective remedy by the competent national tribunals for acts of violating the fundamental rights granted him by the constitution or by law.

100,000 killed in Armenia earthquake

(Continued from page 1)

Cuba and Britain, arrived in Moscow in the predawn hours. TASS said. He was expected to travel to the stricken area.

Turkey said Friday it would open its border with Soviet Armenia to provide all possible help for the victims of the earthquake.

The quake also rippled across wide areas of Turkey's mountainous Kars province, killing at least four people and leaving more than 1,000 homeless.

Foreign Ministry spokesman Inal Batu said Turkey was ready to help the Soviet Union in every way following the quake which measured 6.9 on the open-ended Richter scale.

"If the transfer of relief supplies over or through Turkey is

the most practical way, Turkey will certainly not put up any obstacles. This is an humanitarian issue," he said.

The earthquake destroyed two-thirds of Leninakan, Armenia's second-largest city, a TV correspondent said. TASS said half the building in Kirovakan, a city of 150,000, had crumbled.

A special meeting of representatives of all 15 Soviet republics has called in Yerevan to discuss disaster relief.

An international airlift of emergency medical supplies, food, special equipment and dogs help search for survivors began Friday. A spokesman for Yerevan's Zvartnots airport said planes had arrived from France, Belgium and Bulgaria and that many more were expected from around the world.

In Baku, the Azerbaijani foreign ministry spokesman said there had been a substantial increase in the number of refugees crossing the border in both directions since the earthquake.

At least 12,000 troops were leading attempts to pull survivors from huge mounds of rubble — all that remained of many buildings in Spitak, Leninakan, Kirovakan and other affected cities.

The Armenian spokesman in Yerevan said the priority of Armenians was not to keep a casualty count, but "how to rescue people from under the ruins and how to give others a proper, dignified burial."

Friday and Saturday were declared days of mourning in Armenia for victims of the earthquake, the worst in Transcaucasia this century.

In Baku, the Azerbaijani foreign ministry spokesman said there had been a substantial increase in the number of refugees crossing the border in both directions since the earthquake.

In Jerusalem, four Israeli cars were torched overnight, and

(Continued from page 1)

things and erase the will for independence from people's consciousness," Sharon told the Maariv daily.

Uprising leaders lit a dozen torches overnight on the Eibal Mountain in the West Bank to symbolise 12 months of the Palestinian rebellion.

Slogans painted on the walls of the Tulkarem refugee camp declared: "Happy new year to the Intifada."

Palestinian demonstrators clashed with troops in the Balata and Al Fara refugee camps near Nablus following Friday prayers.

Police officials said four Palestinians were wounded, including a 22-year-old man shot in the mouth.

In Jerusalem, four Israeli cars were torched overnight, and

Article 17

Everyone has the right to own property alone as well as in association with others.

(2) No one shall be arbitrarily deprived of his property.

Article 18

Everyone has the right to freedom of thought, conscience and religion; this right includes freedom to change his religion or belief, and freedom, either alone or in community with others and in public or private, to manifest his religion or belief in teaching, practice, worship and observance.

Article 19

Everyone has the right to freedom of opinion and expression; this right includes freedom to hold opinions without interference and to seek, receive and impart information and ideas through any media and regardless of frontiers.

Article 20

(1) Everyone has the right to freedom of peaceful assembly and association.

(2) No one may be compelled to belong to an association.

Article 21

(1) Everyone has the right to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives.

(2) Everyone has the right to equal access to public service in his

Article 22

country.

(3) The will of the people shall be the basis of the authority of government; this will shall be expressed in periodic and genuine elections which shall be by universal and equal suffrage and shall be held by secret vote or by equivalent free voting procedures.

Article 23

Everyone, as a member of society, has the right to social security and is entitled to realisation, through national effort and international cooperation and in accordance with the organisation and resources of each State, of the economic, social and cultural rights indispensable for his dignity and the free development of his personality.

Article 24

(1) Everyone has the right to work, to free choice of employment, to just and favourable conditions of work and protection against unemployment.

(2) Everyone, without any discrimination, has the right to equal pay for equal work.

(3) Everyone who works has the right to just and favourable remuneration ensuring for himself and his family an existence worthy of human dignity, and supplemented, if necessary, by other means of social protection.

(4) Everyone has the right to form and to join trade unions for the protection of his interests.

Article 25

Everyone has the right to rest and leisure, including reasonable limitation of working hours and periodic holidays with pay.

Article 26

(1) Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.

(2) Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance. All children, whether born in or out of wedlock, shall enjoy the same social protection.

Article 27

Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.

(2) Everyone has the right to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author.

Article 28

Everyone is entitled to a social and international order in which the rights and freedoms set forth in this Declaration can be fully realised.

Article 29

(1) Everyone has duties to the community in which alone the free and full development of his personality is possible.

(2) In the exercise of his rights and freedoms, everyone shall be subject only to such limitations as are determined by law solely for the purpose of securing due recognition and respect for the rights and freedoms of others and of meeting the just requirements of morality, public order, and the general welfare in a democratic society.

The New York Times:
Gutter press

FIT TO PRINT: A.M. ROSENTHAL AND HIS TIMES. By Joseph Goulden. Times: 488 pages; \$21.95.

ABOUT halfway through "Fit To Print," Joseph Goulden's start-up biography of A.M. Rosenthal, the retired executive editor of the New York Times, the author relates that his subject was once asked how he edits the newspaper. "With my stomach," replied Rosenthal. "When you read a story that has a knife in it, that has an unfair twist, it makes you uneasy to read it."

The uneasiness is there with this biography. Not that there is any reason to doubt Goulden's

BOOK REVIEW

fairness. He has never worked for Rosenthal and gives no indication that he has any animosity towards him. Rather the uneasiness comes from the necessity of painting so miserable a picture of the man who ran the Times. Rosenthal emerges in the book as such an ogre, albeit a talented one, that one is left almost reeling. Nor does it comfort the reader to know that many of the 317 people interviewed by Goulden have apparently been slighted in one way or another by Rosenthal over the years. Revenge, on or off the record, is sweet.

Anecdote follows anecdote. A news assistant is dismissed after daring to ask Rosenthal a question and then referring to him as managing, rather than executive, editor. Reporters are sent to journalistic Coventry because they dared cross him. Talented journalists are driven away from the Times. Rosenthal abandons people who have dedicated their



Learning to write, to use computers and fix electronic machines, are



some of the skills taught at the Al Hussein Society for Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped.



Learning to write, to use computers and fix electronic machines, are

A stretched out hand helps them stand

By Suhaib M. Obeidat
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "I wish to grow up to be a pilot." It sounds like a spontaneous statement by an ordinary ten-year-old boy; but the fact that Mahmoud Haidar is physically handicapped is what makes his wish so far-fetched.

Even though he cannot become a pilot, Mahmoud might very well become a productive member of society, as he is one of 150 children yearly benefiting from the services of Al Hussein Society for the Rehabilitation of the Physically Handicapped.

"This is the only society in Jordan that educates and rehabilitates physically handicapped children," President of the Society Her Royal Highness Princess Majida Ra'd said in an interview with the Jordan Times.

Originally founded as the Al Hussein Society for Child Welfare, today the five-year-old society looks back with pride upon its achievements.

The origins of the society go back to 1972 when a group of ladies helped collect money for

the government orphanage. And then in 1973 when three small orphans merged into a large one, again the ladies offered their help and friendship. They collected enough money to employ extra staff and to repair and expand the orphanage.

Then came their visit to the rehabilitation centre in Al Ashrafiyah which was started by the British Cheshire Foundation. By that time it was government-run as a care home for the handicapped children after they underwent surgery at Al Bashir Hospital.

The centre lacked a lot of facilities, so the ladies gathered the money that helped in sending some handicapped children to the United States for medication.

At a later stage they took a room at Al Ashrafiyah Orphanage where they lodged three handicapped teenage girls.

From there they grew so much in size that they opened a care centre at Um Utheinah, which also functioned as a school and a small rehabilitation centre.

Surprisingly enough and with no apparent reasons, the Ministry

of Health shut down Al Ashrafiyah centre; despite the fact that it was badly needed and that it served a purpose.

"This was not at all our intention. It only increased burden on us and soon the villa in Um Utheinah became so crowded with help-needing patients that we seriously had to look for another alternative," Princess Majida said.

"We already had a piece of land and the whole project was designed by Swedish engineers. Yet there remained the problem of funding, until we received big grants from Sultan Qaboos of Oman and the Queen Alia Social Welfare Fund (QAF).

"The QAF not only helped fund the project but built and handed it over to us to start our services from here," Princess Majida said. "And so we fulfilled our dream of a suitably equipped centre for the rehabilitation of the physically handicapped."

Medical care

The Amman centre handles cases of poliomyelitis amputation, congenital malformation, spina bifida, slight brain damage, muscular dystrophy and paraplegia.

Medical care is provided twice a week by a pediatrician from the Ministry of Health and a 24-hour nursing service. The mobile clinic, a present from the Italian government enables the centre's staff to make visits to camps and rural areas to help the handicapped children there.

Out-patients can also benefit from the facilities offered by the physiotherapy and hydrotherapy departments. The objectives of this department are to increase the patients mobility and to help them reach maximum possible freedom of movement.

The Occupational Therapy Department in the centre deals with everyday living activities of the patients, such as hygiene, sitting postures and holding pens and utensils.

Children are taught to get dressed by themselves and to look after themselves.

All the necessary aids prescribed by the doctor and the therapist are produced by the Medical Engineering Department. Braces, splints, plaster works, artificial limbs, orthopedic

shoes and crutches are all manufactured at the centre. The department also repairs and adjusts wheelchairs.

Elementary school

The most important part of the centre is the elementary school which follows the Ministry of Education's syllabus. So during their treatment periods, children receive normal school education.

"Ideally, physically handicapped children should not be put in separate schools but in normal schools. There is a certain group of slow learners who are mildly retarded, and therefore do not fit in any of the existing schools. A great number of them are in desperate need of help so we have to give importance to this specific problem in our society. We must concentrate on the handicapped people's needs," Princess Majida said.

The society used to give lessons in typing and dressmaking, but stopped them because the handicapped girls were not able to

make enough money to become really independent, they also faced transport problems from home to work.

Secretarial lessons were inadequate because teenage handicapped girls are usually illiterate, so it was difficult to place them in secretarial jobs or jobs that required the use of computers.

As for board and lodging, the society houses 40 girls and boys in addition to the twelve male students at the TV and Radio Repair Centre. "However, this is not a care home. We cannot keep our patients here forever. We have to have a place to host new patients," Princess Majida explained.

Families are encouraged to visit their children and to take them home over the weekends in order to keep up family ties, because the longer they stay isolated the more difficult it becomes to resettle them. Such cases occurred with boys and girls who stayed in Al Ashrafiyah Orphanage were very hard to successfully resettle. They became institutionalised, it was very difficult to persuade them to go back home, in some cases their families refused to take them back, the Princess said. "We constantly face mental obstacles from the patients' families and the society, their attitudes and barriers that are hard to break through.

"We sometimes bring back earlier students if some special difficulty occurs for immediate help," Princess Majida added.

A success story

One of the success stories of the society is a handicapped girl, who improved her education until she qualified to teach. She is the first handicapped teacher accepted by the Ministry of Education to teach at the society. She now lives independently with two other handicapped girls.

"For funding, the society depends on charity and donations from generous people; as there is no social welfare system. And we are in competition with many other organisations in trying to collect money to cover our expenses, Princess Majida said.

As part of their fund-raising drive, the society is holding a bazaar at the Marriott Hotel on Dec. 11, under the patronage of Her Royal Highness Princess Basma. Twelve embassies will take part in the bazaar.



A young girl learns how to knit.



Gebelawi's children are banned by Al Azhar

By Sara Al Gamal
Reuter

CAIRO — Egyptian religious authorities have banned serialisation of a novel by Egypt's Nobel prize-winning author Naguib Mahfouz, seven weeks after he won the prestigious award for literature.

Mahfouz, the first Arab writer to win the Nobel Prize, said he did not want "Children of Our Alley" to be published without the approval of Al-Azhar, the highest religious body in mainly Muslim Egypt.

Sheikh Fathallah Al Giziawi, an Al Azhar official, told Reuters Tuesday (Dec. 6) the novel, banned 20 years ago, was still considered "destructive of (Islamic) values and was defamatory to Islamic prophets."

"He (Mahfouz) ridicules the prophets. We as Muslims cannot allow such a thing. The fact that he has won a Nobel Prize will not change the ban imposed since 1968," Al Giziawi added.

The evening newspaper Al Messa surprised many last week by printing a first instalment of "Children of Our Alley," which Al Azhar originally banned as blasphemous — a charge Mahfouz denied.

Al Azhar, which has the power to ban books on religious grounds, renewed its objections when the serialisation appeared and a radio show announced plans to broadcast an old recorded version.

The newspaper dropped this week's episode and said it had stopped the serialisation at

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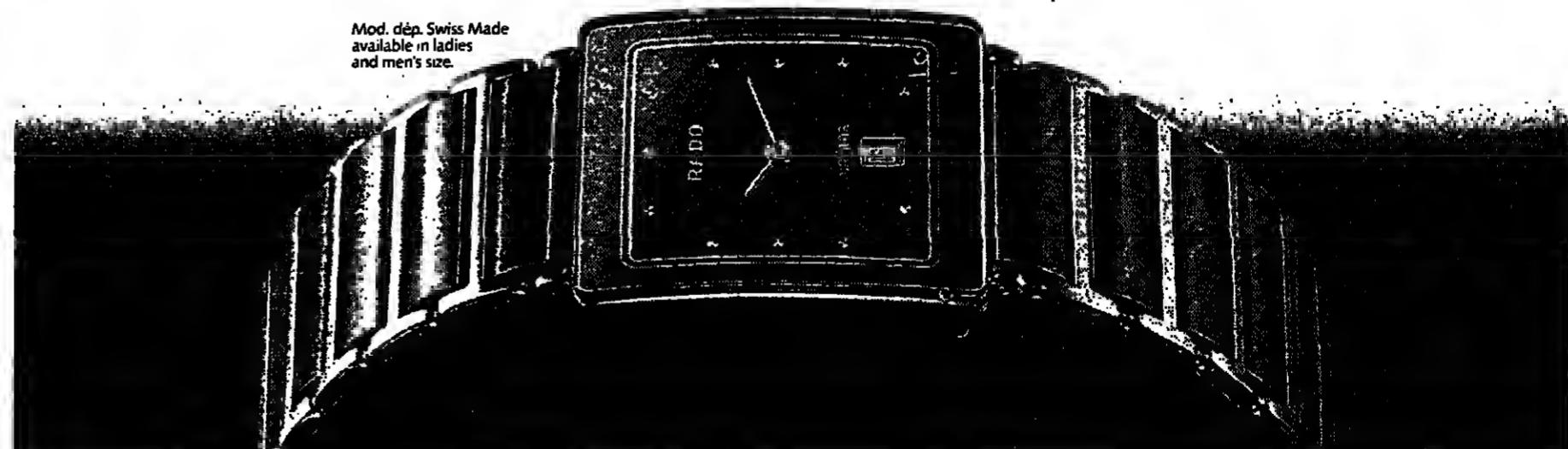
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World trade debates conclude inconclusively

MONTREAL (R) — World trade ministers finished negotiations here Thursday without agreeing on four of 15 topics and gave the head of GATT four months to resolve outstanding differences, a GATT spokesman said.

The spokesman, David Woods, said senior trade ministers had asked the director-general of the world trade body to consult senior government officials on points that could not be settled in Montreal.

The unresolved points included the dispute between the United States and the European Community (EC) over agricultural subsidies, he said.

"Now is a good time to have a cooling off period," U.S. Trade Representative Clayton Yeutter told reporters.

Trade ministers tentatively agreed to shift the meeting to Geneva, the headquarters of the world trade body, because of the inability to settle their disagreements.

"The mid-term meeting is prolonged until April," said EC Trade Commissioner Willy De Clercq.

A late night meeting of senior trade ministers chaired by Uruguayan Economics and Finance Minister Ricardo Zerbino decided GATT governments needed more time to reconcile differences on four areas, including trade in farm goods and textiles, and rules to protect copyrights and patents.

Woods said the deal was designed to safeguard progress made during four difficult days of talks here on other areas of trade liberalisation.

Delegates said the move would also serve to head off a threat by a group of developing countries to block tentative accords already reached on the 11 other issues.

The developing countries were angered by the inability of the United States and the EC to resolve their dispute over farm trade reforms and come up with concrete measures to cut subsidies.

A meeting of second-tier officials in Geneva has been set for the first week of April, at which GATT Director-General Arthur Dunkel was to make a report on progress made in his mediation efforts.

It will be up to Dunkel to arrange meetings between delegations to try to move the Uruguay Round forward.

"Everybody now needs to go home to assess the debate in agriculture," said Yeutter, who will be stepping down before President-elect Bush assumes office Jan. 20.

Delegates said Zerbino's plan also had the advantage of enabling Bush and the woman he has named to succeed Yeutter, Carla Hills, to settle into their new positions.

The major hurdles that Dunkel will face in his crucial role as mediator in Geneva include efforts strongly supported by industrialised countries to draft international rules protecting against piracy of intellectual property.

The United States and the EC broke off agricultural talks earlier Thursday after their last-ditch effort to heal a deep rift foundered.

Earlier Australian Trade Negotiations Minister Michael Duffy said a farm trade war was a distinct possibility, stating bluntly: "We are staring down the barrel of that."

The move to adjourn the talks without trying to reach final agreement in any of the 15 negotiating areas and to set April as

the next stage for talks appeared to be an attempt to defuse tensions that had built up over the week-long bargaining.

U.S. and EC negotiators engaged in bitter, at times public, exchanges as the talks wore on.

The final collapse of farm negotiations provoked anger from developing countries and veiled threats from the United States and EC that they might find it difficult to avoid a trade war.

Developing nations such as Argentina and Brazil, caught in the crossfire, threatened to block agreement on other areas of trade liberalisation.

The head of Argentina's delegation, Planning Minister Bernardo Grinspun, told Reuters: "If there is no agreement in agriculture, there will be no agreement in other areas... is that clear?"

The talks achieved an early breakthrough Monday when ministers agreed to open up industrial markets on an annual volume of \$25 billion to \$35 billion of Third World products such as coffee, cocoa and tea.

Washington signalled Thursday evening that it would also lower tariffs on selected goods, aligning itself with the other GATT members' concessions. Previously, it had withheld its agreement to the deal.

Ministers had also tentatively approved plans to liberalise trade in services, cut industrial tariffs and allow the GATT to monitor members' trade policies.

Other than agriculture and intellectual property, areas still being debated included textile trade, important to many Third World countries, and limits on recourse to a GATT rule allowing import barriers under special circumstances.

ECONOMIC NEWS BRIEFS

Iraq totally abandons Syrian pipeline

JEDDAH, Saudi Arabia (AP) — Iraqi Oil Minister Issam Al Chalabi said in an interview published Thursday that Baghdad has totally abandoned plans to reactivate the trans-Syrian pipeline used to transport Iraqi crude to the Mediterranean until 1982. "We've dropped this from our calculation and we have no intention of revising this decision," he was quoted as saying in the Jeddah-based Saudi Arabian newspaper Al Sharq Al Awsat. The pipeline had a capacity of 120,000 barrels and used to transport 30 per cent of Iraqi crude oil to Mediterranean and Red seas via Turkey and Saudi Arabia. It was not immediately clear whether Iraqi claims for compensation from Syria had been dropped.

Swiss banks help criminals go free'

GENEVA (R) — Swiss banks have enabled criminals to go free by telling them that they were under investigation, an Italian judge said in an interview published Thursday. Mario Vaudano, a Tunis magistrate who specialises in financial crime, told the Swiss weekly L'Hebdo that Swiss delays of up to five years in providing information meant criminals often went unpunished. Asked if Swiss banks were guilty of obstruction, he said: "They do worse, sometimes. Swiss banks have informed their clients that criminal investigations have been opened against them and let them quietly empty their accounts. In Italy, a judge would not tolerate that." Vaudano said Switzerland played a central role in the operations of money-launderers, who channel money through numerous bank accounts to disguise its criminal origin.

Bankers to get \$711m for Nabisco deal

ATLANTA, Georgia (AP) — Bankers will reap more than \$700 million in fees for their participation in history's largest deal, according to government documents filed after the \$24.53 billion buyout of RJR Nabisco Inc. Documents filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission suggest investment and commercial bankers would get as much as \$711.88 million in fees for arranging the financing of \$109 cash-and-securities offer for each share of RJR stock. Drexel Burnham Lambert Inc. would take home the lion's share of the fees, getting an estimated \$226.88 million. Merrill Lynch and Co. would receive \$109.38 million, while Morgan Stanley and Co. and Wasserstein, Perella and Co. would get \$25 million each. In addition, a syndicate of four banks — Bankers Trust Co., Chase Manhattan Bank, Citibank and Manufacturers Hanover Trust Co. — would split \$325 million for lining up \$14.5 billion in bank loans. Drexel also could end up with four per cent of RJR Nabisco, while Merrill Lynch would get two per cent.

Ministers had also tentatively approved plans to liberalise trade in services, cut industrial tariffs and allow the GATT to monitor members' trade policies.

Other than agriculture and intellectual property, areas still being debated included textile trade, important to many Third World countries, and limits on recourse to a GATT rule allowing import barriers under special circumstances.

Lloyd's punishes four underwriters

LONDON (R) — Lloyd's of London said Thursday it had fined four underwriters £150,000 (\$279,000) each and expelled two of them from its insurance market for improper business conduct. Lloyd's alleged the underwriters placed reinsurance contracts with companies in which they or their families held interests. Lloyd's disciplinary committee found underwriters John Parry, Frederick Raven and Edward Nelson were guilty of misconduct by permitting the placing of a contract that guaranteed a profit to the reinsurer, a Bermuda-incorporated firm to which they held an interest. Parry and Raven were expelled and Nelson's membership was suspended for two years. A fourth underwriter, Arthur Grafton-Bellew, was acquitted of the misconduct charge. But he was suspended for five years after being found guilty along with the others of "discreditable conduct" in connection with other charges involving low interest payments to investors and inter-company loans.

Sharjah, Iran to set up shipping firm

ABU DHABI (R) — Iran and the Gulf emirate of Sharjah are to set up a joint shipping company, local officials said Thursday. They said the two countries agreed during talks in Sharjah to set up the company and to open an Iranian trade centre in the emirate. Isa Abdulla Walai, head of the Iranian parliament's foreign trade committee, attended the talks at which the chairman of Sharjah chamber of commerce and industry, Sheikh Mohammad Ibn Salim Al Qasimi asked Iran to cut customs tariffs on products from the United Arab Emirates (UAE). Sharjah is one of seven emirates that make up the UAE. Iran, like its Gulf war foe Iraq, is taking part in an international trade exhibition in Sharjah in efforts to boost non-oil exports.

Report reveals \$450m in dues to U.N.

UNITED NATIONS (R) — The United Nations is owed more than \$450 million in back dues and another financially bleak year is in prospect unless members pay up in time, according to a U.N. report published Thursday. "The United Nations has yet to leave behind the spectre of the financial crisis," Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar wrote. "Throughout 1988 the organisation has confronted the possibility of imminent bankruptcy, which it has narrowly managed to avoid so far," he noted. He added: "If member states do not meet their legal obligations, the organisation will be in no better position in 1989 than it was in 1988 to implement economic measures sufficient to avoid insolvency without significant disruption of programmes." As of Nov. 30, \$269.2 million of 1988's total regular budget assessments of \$758 million remained unpaid, the report said. Together with arrears of \$180.9 million for previous years, outstanding contributions totalled \$450.1 million. Of this, the United States owed \$337.3 million, including nearly \$122.4 million for years prior to 1988.

Opposition parties responded to the resignation with mixed signals.

Tsuruo Yamaguchi, secretary-general of the largest opposition group, the Japan Socialist Party, said in a statement that Miyazawa's resignation was well overdue, but that his party did not intend to participate in parliamentary debate on the tax reform package.

"Since the finance minister, who is in charge of carrying out the tax reform, resigned, the tax reform bills start again from scratch," he said.

Komeito, or the Clear Government Party, however, said in a statement that Miyazawa's resignation had cleared the way for full-fledged deliberations on the tax legislation.

The draft law, Japan's first sweeping overhaul of its tax system since the end of World War II, has been a top priority for the Liberal Democratic Party for a decade.

Successive administrations have failed to pass the reform due to a lack of public support and strong resistance from opposition parties.

The new package simplifies corporate and personal income tax scales and introduces a three per cent sales tax.

But political analysts said the

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Top economists call for urgent Arab privatisation

not in the production or services sectors," he said.

"In oil-producing countries," he said, "the private sector dominates, and although the public sector plays an important role, privatisation is less urgent in these countries."

"Privatisation is the only means for improving the deteriorating economies of the Arab countries in order to be able to face oil price fluctuations and protectionist policies in the industrialised states," said Saeed Al Najar, an Egyptian economist, after the conclusion of the seminar.

He said privatisation was urgently needed first in Arab countries with a socialist economic structure like Egypt, Syria, Iraq, Algeria and South Yemen.

"The public sector in these countries covers a wide area of activities whether important or

50 per cent of the gross domestic product of oil producing states, only one per cent of the working population was directly employed by it.

"The oil sector is very capital-intensive, but not labour-intensive," he stated.

He added that free trade zones would help develop the non-oil sector in GCC states where, despite the decline in oil prices, it was possible to balance receipts and payments.

This situation did not provide any incentive for the local industry to grow because it was still more economical to import rather than produce a wide range of products.

He pointed out that free trade zones would also facilitate the development of a wider economic base which would lead to the emergence of the local industry.

Time constraints Bhutto from changing '89 budget

with the caretaker government to provide \$1 billion to bail out Pakistan's sagging economy, explained Jafary.

However, he refused to reveal the strings the IMF attached to the \$1 billion deal but it is reported to call for stiff austerity measures by Bhutto's government to get the economy back on track.

The IMF and Bhutto's government are expected to finalise the deal within the next two weeks.

Canadian banks raise prime rates

OTTAWA (R) — Canada's major banks Thursday raised their prime lending rates by one-half point to 12.25 per cent after the nation's central bank raised the cost of borrowing funds. Royal Bank of Canada, a leading commercial bank, led the move, raising the Canadian prime rate to its highest level since March 1986.

AMMAN EXCHANGE RATES

Thursday Dec. 8, 1988		
Central Bank official rates		
Buy	Sell	Japanese yen (for 100)
469.0	471.0	381.2 383.1
Pound Sterling	864.1	Dutch guilder 236.7 237.9
Deutschmark	267.2	Swedish crown 77.3 77.7
Swiss franc	317.6	Italian lire (for 100) 36.2 36.4
French franc	78.2	Belgian franc (for 10) 127.4 128.6

Amman Financial Market weekly trading

Following is a summary of trading during last week and the previous week:

Dec. 1-7	Nov. 26-30
Daily average	JD 638,641 JD 979,223
Total volume	JD 3,193,304 JD 4,896,119
Total shares	3,382,145 2,570,392
No. of contracts	2,680 2,456
Sectoral trading:	
Industrial	JD 1,559,934 JD 1,893,708
Financial	(48.6%) (40.5%)
Service	(44.1%) (45.0%)
Insurance	(2.8%) (2.6%)
Share price index	126.1 125.5
No. of companies	75 76
Price movement (rise)	25 26
(decline)	25 40
(stable)	14

SPORTS IN BRIEF

Doubles' favourites almost out

LONDON (R) — Favourites Ken Flach and Robert Seguso conceded their second fifth-set tiebreak in two days Thursday to retain only a slim chance of reaching the Masters doubles semifinals. The top-seeded American pair were beaten in their second round-robin engagement by compatriot Todd Witsken and Mexican Jorge Lozano who ended a tough match 6-2, 2-6, 2-6, 6-3, 7-6 (7-4). Flach and Seguso, beaten on a fifth-set tiebreak by Spain's Emilio Sanchez and Sergio Casal in their opening match, must now defeat New Zealander Kelly Evernden and American Johan Kriek if they are to have any chance of reaching the \$27,500 tournament. "We have an outside shot at it if Casal and Sanchez win both their matches," said Flach. "But we weren't looking to come into the semifinals by the back door like this — we should have won at least one of these matches." The Americans, Wimbledon and Olympic champions, flew to London only the day before their first appointment at the elegant Albert Hall.

Swedish TV to cover Davis Cup

STOCKHOLM (R) — Swedish national television said Thursday it would defy anti-apartheid pressure from its government-appointed monitoring body and broadcast next week's Davis Cup tennis final between Sweden and West Germany. Domestic coverage of the final in Gothenburg from Dec. 16-18 was thrown into doubt last week when the independent Broadcasting Council rebuked the state-chartered network for screening the cup semifinal against France. The French team included members who are on the United Nations blacklist of players who have competed in South Africa. Another blacklisted player is West German number one Boris Becker, who made an appearance as a junior in the white-coded republic and who has refused to write the letter of apology necessary to have his name expunged from the U.N. blacklist.

Ministers threat invalid, officials say

TORONTO (R) — Minister of Sport Jean Charest, who has vowed that disgraced sprinter Ben Johnson would face a lifetime suspension, does not have the power to suspend him from future Olympic teams, the Canadian Olympic Association (COA) said Thursday. After Johnson, 26, was stripped of his 100 metres gold medal in Seoul when traces of the steroid stanozolol were found in his system, Charest announced in parliament that Johnson would be banned from Canada's national team and deprived of federal

funding for the rest of his life. Charest repeated his hardline stand during a trip to Toronto earlier this week. But COA spokesman Frank Ratcliffe says that Charest overstepped his authority. "Banning an athlete for life is beyond the authority of the minister," said Ratcliffe. "The COA decides who is eligible to be on an Olympic team. Period," Ratcliffe said.

Steroids ringleaders indicted in U.S.

SOUTH CAROLINA (AP) — Two companies and five people were indicted Thursday for allegedly manufacturing and distributing more than a million dollars worth of steroids to individuals, including body builders and other athletes. The 44-count indictment from a U.S. grand jury said all but one of the defendants participated in a conspiracy to manufacture and sell steroids from March 1985 to at least July 1987. The steroids were labeled and distributed under the names of nonexistent European companies, Assistant U.S. Attorney General John R. Bolton said in a news release. "It was further part of the conspiracy that the defendants would and did distribute their illicitly manufactured steroid tablets and injectable steroids to body builders and other athletes," the indictment said.

E. Germany joins anti-drug coalition

VIENNA (AP) — A joint U.S.-Soviet attack on drug use in sports, forged in the wake of the doping scandals at the summer Olympics, picked up a major ally when East Germany said it would join the agreement. "The big three are leading the way," said Anita Defrantz, an International Olympic Committee member from the United States. Procedural matters must be worked out before East Germany can take on a one-third role in the superpower crackdown on drugs, said Robert Heimick, U.S. Olympic Committee president and an IOC member. But the move, announced Thursday by East German Olympic Committee President Manfred Ewald, means the top three medal-winning countries from the summer Olympics in Seoul. The Soviet Union won 132 medals in Seoul, while East Germany won 102 and the United States 94. None of the three nations had any athletes among the 10 who were punished for drug use at the games. As a week of worldwide sports meetings where drug use was the predominant topic drew to a close, the International Olympic Committee was asked to add marijuana to the list of banned substances. The Association of National Olympic Committees said marijuana was a danger to health and "leads to the use of other, harder drugs."

Tight-rope of hope for former greats

ATLANTIC CITY (AP) — Pinklon Thomas and Michael Dokes, two 30-year-old former heavyweight champions, are walking a tight-rope of hope. A loss by either and his chance of another title shot most likely will be dead, although boxing has a way of resurrecting its old champions at unexpected times for often embarrassing performances. Thomas, who overcame heroin addiction as a teen-ager and went on to win the World Boxing Council title, appears to be in a much tighter corner than Dokes. He will fight unbeaten Evander Holyfield in a scheduled 10-round bout Friday night in the convention centre's 3,200-seat ballroom. Dokes figures to have little trouble in beating Rocky Sekorski in a scheduled 12-round defence of something called the Continental Americas title in the first half of a cable television doubleheader.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
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CUT THOSE LINES

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH	W	EAST
♦ K J 7	♦ 10 9 8 7	♦ 10 9 6 4
♦ Q 7 5	♦ A K 2	♦ 5
♦ 4	♦ J 6 4 3	♦ 10 8 2
♦ 9 8 6	♦ A 7 5 4 2	♦ 7 3

WEST

♦ 3 2	♦ 10 9 6 4
♦ A K 2	♦ 5
♦ J 6 4 3	♦ 10 8 2
♦ 9 8 6	♦ A 7 5 4 2

SOUTH

♦ A Q 8 5	♦ 4
♦ Q J 6 4 3	♦ 9 8 7
♦ 9 A	♦ 7 3
♦ 7 6 5 4 3	♦ 10 9 6 4

The bidding:

South	West	North	East
1	2	Pass	Pass
4	5	Pass	Pass

Opening lead: Three of ♦

Unquestionably, the most successful bridge teacher in the U.S. is Bill Root, who divides his time between New York and Boca Raton. His annual Royal Viking Line bridge cruise attracts more than 150 players eager to learn from the master. While Root's talents as a teacher are legend, many tend to overlook that he is also one of this country's great players. He was declared on this hand from the recent Springold team event at the Summer North American Championships, held in Salt Lake City.

Systemically, North's jump to four clubs showed a balanced hand with the equivalent of an opening bid and at least four-card heart support. With a dead minimum opening bid, Root had no ambitions beyond game.

West led a spade, won in hand. On the surface it might seem that declarer's only losers were two trumps and a club, but the danger of a spade ruff was imminent. Declarer made the technically correct play of a low trump. West alertly took his king, and returned another spade, and a careless declarer would win in dummy and lead a second trump. That would spell defeat. West would win and get to East with the ace of clubs, and the spade return would permit West to ruff for the setting trick.

There was an elegant counter. Instead of leading second trump, Root cashed three rounds of diamonds, discarding a club from his hand. When East sluffed on the fourth diamond, declarer discarded his remaining club. West won a diamond trick he did not expect, but he now had no way to get to his partner's hand for the ruff. Root was able to draw trumps at his leisure and claim his contract.

YOUR DAILY HOROSCOPE

— As Charled By The Carroll Righter Astrological Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: The road may be bumpy for many today. Emotional potholes stem from insecurities, limitations, delays and false starts. Stick with the familiar basics which you know will work. Don't take things too personally.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) This war of the sexes may be in full swing. Your understanding can save the day. Your partner's attitude may be affected.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Travel plans may be postponed or adjusted. Parents play a key role. Romantic buttons are pushed to fulfill sensual needs.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) A hidden affair needs a second opinion. Stay away from situations that have the potential to destroy trust and personal stability.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Compromise and cooperation will help you through the day. Allow others to exercise their rights to their own preferences.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Though loneliness and inattention can spark a lover's quarrel. Plan for a family affair, and be sure to include close friends.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Tension may occur over possessions

and financial budgets. Clamming up will only aggravate the issues. Communication brings solutions.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Split up chores around the house, and start organizing the day in the morning. Togetherness with your mate tonight will spark romance.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Home activities may have you tied down most of the day. A positive approach to your heter half brings you a fun-filled evening.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You may be dealing with demands you cannot meet. Coordinate activities with your mate to ease overburdened routines.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Emotional tangles call for a cool head and a sensible approach.

TAURUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Stay clear of a friend's romantic problems. Co-workers are involved.

AQUARIUS (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Check with others in the household before you invite guests home. Work and pleasure can be combined. Don't be unreasonable.

PISCES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Career demands call for needed rest and relaxation. Have someone else manage the day for the day, and make private time for yourself.

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NATO welcomes Soviet offer as positive policy shift

BRUSSELS (Agencies) — The North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) Friday welcomed arms cuts announced by the Soviet Union as heralding a possible shift in Moscow's military policy, and U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said they should not be dismissed as a propaganda ploy.

NATO foreign ministers, adopting an unusually warm tone about Soviet policy, said they hoped the unilateral cuts represented "the starting point of a new approach by the Soviet Union to the size and structure of their military forces and programmes."

Shultz, while emphasising that disparities remained between the conventional forces of NATO and those of the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact, said of the announcement by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev:

"You wouldn't want to... dismiss this as a propaganda ploy because there is a great deal of important substance in it."

He later said: "I like the concept that the cold war is dead, f hope that is so." He added, however, that the Berlin Wall remained as a symbol of division.

Gorbachev's dramatic announcement Wednesday that the Soviet Union would cut its armed forces by 500,000 men and pull thousands of tanks, guns and troops out of Eastern Europe threw the two-day ministerial meeting off balance.

NATO responded Thursday by saying that, in forthcoming conventional stability talks between the two military blocs, it would be

seeking much more — a reduction to a total of 40,000 tanks by both blocs and a cut of at least 25,000 tanks by the Soviet Union to 12,000.

Shultz stressed Friday that the allies must maintain a strong defence effort even in the wake of the Soviet initiatives.

"Being encouraged doesn't mean you just go bananas (feel euphoric) and forget about the things that got you here," he told a news conference.

Shultz, who has met with NATO ministers in Brussels and elsewhere for more than 6½ years on the job, was attending his last alliance session.

"The alliance, it seems to me, is in a very strong position," he said. "It's cohesive, it's informed about what is taking place."

NATO Secretary-General Manfred Woerner said: "We cannot have our security or the security of our allies consistent with the policies of the Soviet leaders."

"We look upon Mr. Gorbachev with sympathy and encourage his reform efforts... while they lead to more human rights and a more responsible conduct of foreign affairs and a reduction in military capability," he said.

In their final statement, the ministers said their talks took

place "amid clear signs of change in the internal and external policies of the Soviet Union and of some of its allies."

"Promising prospects are opening up for an improved East-West dialogue," it said.

"We are encouraged by this trend which, if sustained, would provide us with an unprecedented opportunity to shape a better international environment reflecting our basic values and the aspirations of our peoples," the statement said.

In a separate statement, the ministers addressed East-West trade, saying it must contribute "to constructive East-West relations [and] remain consistent with broad allied security concerns."

Despite the flurry of arms proposals, the NATO allies do not expect an easy task in negotiating a dramatic reduction in conventional arms in Europe in the upcoming talks with the Warsaw Pact.

The Western alliance contends the Soviets and their allies maintain a large superiority in conventional forces in Europe. They want the east bloc to make much sharper reductions in their forces to bring the two sides to rough equality.

Sir Geoffrey Howe, British secretary of state for foreign affairs, said the NATO allies were "proposing a dramatic change in the military situation in Europe directed to very substantial reductions by about 50 per cent to a balanced outcome."

REMSCHEID, West Germany (Agencies) — The death toll in the crash of a U.S. air force attack jet that plowed into a residential district and exploded increased to six Friday.

City manager Klaus Schoenbach told the AP a body was found in the wreckage of a house by rescue crews at about 9 a.m. (0800 GMT). He said the dead were the lone pilot of the ill-fated aircraft, and five people who were in the area when the plane crashed.

Peter Becker, a civil defence official in the state of North Rhine Westphalia, said the search was continuing for more victims of Thursday's crash of the A-10 Thunderbolt II.

Eleven people remained hospitalised from injuries received as a result of the crash, and at least 40 others were treated and released.

The crash was the latest in a series of deadly military aircraft accidents.

The crash wrecked a dozen



acrobatic team failed to execute a figure; one of the planes crashed into a crowd, killing 70 people (Sigma photo)

Deaths rise to 6 in U.S. jet crash into Remscheid

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The crash wrecked a dozen

houses and caught some in a string of explosions from 1,000 rounds of ammunition on the Thunderbolt anti-tank jet.

The crash drew immediate calls from opposition parties for a ban on low-level flying over residential districts.

West Germany suspended low-flying exercises by its planes until the end of the year and urged its NATO allies to do the same.

The U.S. air force command at Ramstein said American military training flights would be suspended until Dec. 13 "in memory to those killed and injured in the accident."

The U.S. forces have been the target of a long-standing campaign by the radical Greens and the Social Democrats to ban low-altitude military flights.

The calls have been accentuated this year after a string of military air crashes in West Germany, in which at least 80 civilians and 11 NATO pilots have been killed.

"This sort of reasoning takes matters too far," he said. "We should not forget that the American troops in West Germany are there to help us preserve our security."

State prosecutor Jürgen Bärmann told a news conference that witnesses saw flames spout from one of the plane's two engines before it crashed into a row of houses.

In the secretary-general's report, titled "Current Financial Crisis of the United Nations," he uses current payment patterns to project that in 1989, the world body's regular budget will collect \$779.3 million but will have to spend \$803.9 million, ending the year with a loss of \$24.6 million.

"What we want and what the world wants is for... the state to release the man so that he cannot only have the privilege of seeing his family, but that he can participate fully in the life of the nation," he said.

Mandela's wife, Winnie, said in a statement through his attorney, Ismail Ayob, that she would not take advantage of the prison's offer of unlimited visits.

"She does not intend taking more than the 40-minute visits (once a month) that she had been allowed in the past until all political prisoners are given the same privileges," Ayob said.

In a television interview before leaving Washington he opposed using the latest crash as a weapon in the debate over the presence of NATO's 30,000 troops in West Germany.

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